RIVKINS

HILL RIVKINS & HAYDEN LLP

45 Broadway, Suite 1500, New York, NY 10006-3739 Tel: (212) 669-0600 Fax: (212) 669-0698/0699 e-mail: thefirm@hillrivkins.com

Website: www.hillrivkinslaw.com

Via Electronic Filing

December 7, 2007

The Honorable Gerard E. Lynch United States District Judge United States District Court Southern District of New York 500 Pearl Street New York, NY 10007

USDC SDNY
DOCUMENT
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DATE FILED: (2/10/07)

RE: PANCOAST TRADING S.A., vs. EUROGRANI S.r.l. 07 CV 8581 (GEL)

Our File No.: 29672-JAS

Dear Judge Lynch:

We represent defendant Eurograni S.r.l in the captioned matter.

In short, certain disputes arose between the Plaintiff, Pancoast Trading S.A., and defendant in connection with the carriage of a wheat cargo from Quebec to Sfax, Tunisia aboard the M/V VERTIGO pursuant to a NYPE form charter party. Plaintiff claims defendant breached the charter party and defendant claims plaintiff breached the charter. The matter is subject to London arbitration.

On October 3, 2007, Plaintiff filed its Verified Complaint seeking to attach \$303,606.92 pursuant to Rule B of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Your Honor signed an *Ex Parte* Order for Process of Maritime Attachment that same day and on October 9, 2007, plaintiff attached \$303,606.92.

Rule E(7) of the Supplemental Rules for Certain Admiralty and Maritime Claims of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides, in relevant part:

7. Security on Counterclaim

(a) When a person who has given security for damages in the

**North Broadway

South Amboy, NJ 08879-1638

Sir 732) 838-0300 Fax: (732) 316-2365

mad: thefirm@hillrivkins.com

712 Main Street, Suite 1515
Houston, TX 77002-3209
Tel: (713) 222-1515 Fax: (713) 222-1359
e-mail: hillrivkinstexas@hillrivkins.com

CONNECTICUT
60 Quarry Dock Road
Branford, CT 06405-4654
Tel: (203) 315-9274 Fax: (203) 315-9264
e-mail: hillrivkinsct@snet.net

CALIFORNIA
Of Counsel:
Brown & Associates
11140 Fair Oaks Boulevard, Suite 100
Fair Oaks, CA 95628-5126
Tel: (916) 859-4910 Fax: (916) 859-4911

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> original action asserts a counterclaim that arises from the transaction or occurrence that is the subject of the original action, a plaintiff for whose benefit the security has been given must give security for damages demanded in the counterclaim unless the court for cause shown, directs otherwise.

While reserving its right to move to vacate the attachment, pursuant to Rule E plaintiff has demanded countersecurity in the amount of USD\$325,185.15 to be deposited to a joint escrow account. Documents supporting defendants counterclaim have been provided to Plaintiff. To date, Plaintiff Pancoast Trading has not agreed to provide the requested countersecurity. Consequently, we request the Court's intervention.

The parties have agreed to the following briefing schedule:

Defendant's Motion filed on December 11, 2007 Plaintiff's Opposition filed on December 17, 2007 Defendant's Reply filed on December 19, 2007.

The parties request a prompt hearing thereafter.

We understand that the action has been stayed and, therefore, we request that the sta be lifted. Plaintiff has no objection to this request.

We thank the Court for its consideration of the forgoing.

Respectfully submitted,

HILL RIVKINS & HAYDEN LLP

JAS/mc 29672\005 Court

cc: Via Electronic Filing

Claurisse Campanale Orozco, Esq. Tisdale Law Offices LLC